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FALL

ISSUE

1969

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THE MONTANA MAVERICK

A publication of Warm Springs State Hospital, Warm Springs, Montana

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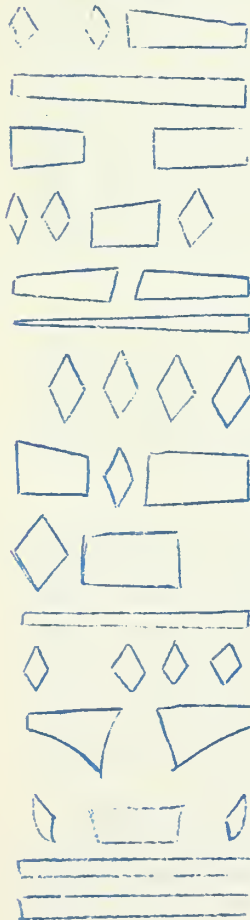
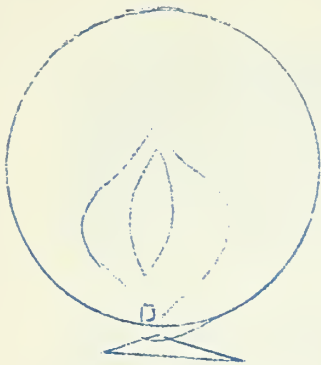
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with the assistance of patients
and volunteers.

The Editor reserves the right to revise articles submitted for publication to coincide with space limitations. The opinions expressed in items do not necessarily reflect the views of the hospital administration. All articles sent to the MONTANA MAVERICK should be signed by the writer.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

We would like to take the opportunity offered by this issue of the Maverick to extend Season's Greetings to all our friends, patients, and employees. We especially would like to thank those who have extended kindness to our patients by thought, deed, or gift. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a most Prosperous New Year.

Stanley J. Rogers.

Stanley J. Rogers, M. D.
Superintendent

INTERESTED IN GROUP THERAPY

The use of the group approach in mental health clinics and mental hospitals has gained favor in many settings, primarily because it affords the opportunity to reach more patients without an increase in staff or staff time. It has been asked many times, why isn't there more group therapy done here at Warm Springs. Often those who ask the question feel that this type of therapy can be done by getting a group of patients together some place at some time. They intimate that anyone can do group therapy.

The group process can be used to achieve a wide variety of results, some of which require little skill on the part of the group leader, while others require considerable knowledge and skill. In this hospital, groups have been used to provide newly admitted patients with orientation to the hospital program, policies and purposes. Group therapy has been offered to help patients to achieve insight into their emotional problems. Another special group approach has been utilized in the Remotivation groups. Group work often is used and is especially beneficial in helping patients who have problems in the area of social relationships. In the group they can learn why they have problems of relating to other people and establish new methods of forming relationships. The goals set for the group must be realistic, both for the needs of the group and the leader's capabilities.

In planning to use the group approach, consideration must be given to a number of factors which interrelate. The goals of the group must be clearly set. These will determine or be determined by the needs of the group members, the kind of problem to be handled and the skill of the group leader. The time and place for the group to meet must be arranged. The optimum number of patients for the group must be determined, since too few can stifle group interaction, and too many can make the group unwieldy.

Group work in the hospital setting, just as any other therapy, should be offered in the framework of the Unit team approach. The therapist should have an opportunity to consult on a regular basis on new referrals to the group, as they are needed, on the problems being presented and how they are handled, and on how the group experience can be enhanced by or related to other areas of in-hospital or social functioning. The maximum effectiveness of the group work process can be achieved only by combining this experience with other experiences of the patient in the hospital and in his social life. Consultation affords the opportunity to combine the total hospital resources to give the patient the most effective treatment.

Group therapy then is another tool to be used to help patients overcome their problems and progress to a more satisfying future life. This tool, as all others, requires some degree of knowledge and ability if it is to attain the desired end.

Gregory Jacobs

SPECIAL EDUCATION AT WARM SPRINGS STATE HOSPITAL

The school program at Warm Springs State Hospital is now being expanded with financial assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title I, from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Office of Education through the Montana Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. A recently approved project will help provide for the special educational needs of the hospitalized child who has not achieved at the expected level, who has not been attending school on a regular basis and/or who has not adjusted adequately to the educational procedures of his peer group. The educational program will provide educational, emotional, and social experiences that will help the emotionally disturbed child reach a higher level of functioning.

The project uses a tri-level approach that includes working with those young persons who have recently left school in their home community. With the interest and cooperation of their local school administration these children might continue with work from that school system and hopefully would return to regular classes at an early date. Instruction for these pupils would be largely of a tutorial nature and reinforcing the home school program. In the case of young people who will not likely return to a regular school setting outside of the hospital, classwork will be aimed at preparing them to successfully complete the high school equivalency tests.

A second phase of the project will center around the business studies area. To better enable some youth to successfully compete for employment, business courses will be offered with instruction in the use of the typewriter, adding machine, and other office equipment. Basic training in bookkeeping, filing, and other business procedures will be given. The use of the typewriter as a motivating factor in vocabulary building, letter writing, and other educational procedures will be utilized.

A third phase of meeting the special educational needs of the children will be a more intensive program that has been devised for the younger child who has special learning disabilities. In most cases these children will be functioning on a pre-school or lower elementary level, and the educational-training program will use a multi-skills approach. Communication skills, gross motor development, sensory perception, and other basic skill will be stressed.

In the case of all students, maintaining the child in a school setting, increasing the students educational competence, broadening the base of information, the development of more adequate relationships with both peers and teachers are meaningful objectives. Structured classes in physical educational, home economics and art will be an integral part of the program. We anticipate both a quantitative and qualitative increase in the level of the educational program for the hospitalized child, regardless of deficits or degree of disability. The involvement of the medical-psychiatric staff, psychologists and social workers, provide resources that will enhance the professional level of this project. The staff members who are assigned to the project have every intention of making this an outstanding educational program, one of the first of its kind for the emotionally disturbed child in Montana.



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CHURCH GOING AMONG HOSPITALIZED PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS

How frequently does a mental hospital patient attend church before he is admitted to the hospital?

How strongly motivated religion-wise is a mental hospital patient?

Provisional answers to these questions were sought and found in a study made by Mr. Martin Hagenson this past summer at Warm Springs State Hospital. Hagenson is a student for the priesthood who worked June through August in the chaplains' department. He was assisted in his study by Chaplains Roset and Flynn, and by Miss Kathy Boothe, chaplain's assistant.

In answer to the first question, the study shows that church attendance seems to have an inverse relationship to entrance into a mental hospital. A possible explanation for this is that the practice of religious faith within an organized community is therapeutic. Active membership in almost any human community facilitates therapeutic inter-personal relationships. Also, in times of crisis, church-goers rely on clergymen who are able to detect problems when they are still young, refer the person for professional help, or give help directly to the person. National studies show that about 43% of the populace first turn to clergymen for help in crisis situations.

The Warm Springs study reveals that for 36% of the patients it had been over a year since they had attended church. Twenty three percent had gone to church the week before entering the hospital. This compares with 43% of the general populace who recently answered "yes" to a Gallup poll, "have you been to church in the last seven days?"

Church Motivation

A second part of the Warm Springs study concerned church or religious motivation. The patients were judged on the basis of "strong-active," "strong-latent," "average", "weak", or "nil." It was shown that 32% of the patients were strong-active or strong-latent, and 48% were weak or nil as regards religious motivation in their life.

Alcoholics Compared To Others

A third part of the study concerned church attendance and religious motivation of the alcoholic compared to all others in the mental hospital. In the matter of church attendance, the typical alcoholic seems to be slightly more lax. Only 15% went to church once a week; 41% had not been to church for over a year.

In reference to religious motivation, 33% of the alcoholics could be described as strong-active or strong-latent, while 55% are weak or nil. Hagenson speculated that the strong-active, or strong-latent alcoholic sees value in being a member of a church community, but he is unable to bring himself to active or frequent participation. Possible reasons for this would be that the alcoholic has marked difficulties in translating good intentions into actuality, or more likely, his feelings of guilt and remorse make the church seem to be a place for the "good people." It is difficult



ACTIVITY THERAPIES ADDS ARTIST TO STAFF

Mrs. Edna Michael Conkey has recently joined the staff of the Activity Therapies Department at this hospital. As a well-trained professional artist, with a broad range of experiences, Mrs. Conkey will have much to offer for the patients in the area of art therapy. It is anticipated that Mrs. Conkey will also aid and instruct other staff in the broad area of applied art. Holding a Master of Applied Art degree from Montana State University in Bozeman, she has also studied at the University of Michigan, Tufts University, Massachusetts and Otis Art Institute in California. Her concentration in the applied arts is painting and printmaking. As a liturgical artist she worked on projects at St. Ann's Church, Butte, St. Matthais Church, Augusta and Holy Rosary Parish in Bozeman.

Mrs. Conkey has exhibited work locally, nationally and internationally. She was artist-in-residence at the International Center of Studies, Rocca di Papa, Rome, Italy and Madrid, Spain.

The variety of experiences of this artist includes work as: Instructor of Art, Montana State University, Bozeman; owner-operator of the Gold Wall Gallery in Bozeman; work with the National Council of Churches in New York City and employment at Walt Disney Productions, Hollywood, California.

It is a pleasure to welcome Mrs. Conkey to the staff at Warm Springs State Hospital.

CHURCH GOING CONTINUED

for the alcoholic to see the church for what it is: an arena of reconciliation. Several alcoholics said, "it would be hypocritical for an alcoholic like me to go to church."

Men Compared to Women

A fourth and perhaps more interesting area of the summer's religious study was a comparison between men and women patients. First, a greater number of women than men attend church weekly (34% to 22%). Secondly, as regards religious motivation, 37% of the men are in the strong-active, strong-latent category while only 27% of the women are so described. Furthermore, 37% of the men are weak or nil, while 65% of the women are weak or nil as regards religious motivation.

The above-listed figures show an apparent discrepancy. Mr. Hagenson hazarded an explanation: 1) men are usually more honest about their behavior, while women are more likely to cover up their failures; 2) men are slow to admit that they are sick or need help. A sort of "maleness-neurosis" makes it difficult to commit themselves to the care of a doctor or hospital. And so men would continue to attend church weekly right up to the time of admittance to the hospital. Women, on the other hand, would more likely admit to their sickness and need of help, and thus would limit their church-going and other social engagements accordingly.

NEW FACES

Several new faces have appeared in our administration and professional staff recently, however, at this time only a few will be covered, but we will present information on the others in subsequent issues.

Our new Assistant Superintendent, Wallace Brotherton comes to us from the State of Indiana where he was employed as Assistant Superintendent of the Richmond State Hospital for a period of six years. His background is admirably suited for our operation here and includes two Masters' Degrees and 19 years experience in the field of Hospital Administration. He received his Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Chicago School of Business in 1950. In 1959 he was awarded his Master's Degree in Hospital Administration (MSHA) at Northwestern University School of Business.

Mr. Brotherton's family includes his wife, who is a Home Economics teacher, and five children. Daughters, Sherry and Elena are attending college; twin sons, Val and Von, attend Anaconda Junior High School while Dan is in sixth grade at Lincoln Elementary School.

The Brotherton family resides at Warm Springs in Residence C and to them we extend a hearty welcome.

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Our new personnel officer, Tom Powers comes to us from Butte where he was formerly mayor for five years and city councilman for a period of three years. Prior to being mayor and city councilman Tom was self-employed in the grocery business.

Mr. Powers received his education at Sacred Heart Grade School and Butte Public High School. He is also a graduate of Creighton University---year 1947. Military service included 4 years of which 2 years were spent in the European theatre of operations with the Second Infantry Division.

Mr. Powers currently resides at 2120 Whitman Street, Butte, Montana with his wife Rose and 9 children who range in age from 3 years to 22 years in age.

As a long time resident of this area there is no question but that the employment of Mr. Powers will be an asset to the hospital. Welcome aboard, Tom.

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Dr. Kyle Pierce is the new Chief Psychologist for Warm Springs State Hospital. We extend our welcome to him and his wife who reside at Warm Springs.

His education includes a B.S. Degree from Arizona State College; and a M.A. Degree and Ph. D. Degree from the University of Arizona.

Dr. Kyle's former experience includes, former Director of Psychology at Arizona State Hospital; Director of Psychological Service at Samuel

NEW FACES CONTINUED

Gompers Memorial Clinic, Management Psychologist; Assistant Professor of Psychology, Montana State University at Bozeman and he has engaged in parttime private practice for the past 15 years. He served 3 years as a large steel desk pilot in the Air Force in WWII.

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Charles R. DeWitt Ph. D. is presently serving as Chief Psychologist for the Division of Mental Hygiene, State of Montana. He was formerly Program Director for the Eastern Montana Regional Community Mental Health Center in 1968--1969. He developed and instrumented mental health service to 110,000 people in a 47,000 square mile area.

Dr. DeWitt was born and received his early education in Texas. After which he served in the Army of the United States in Chemical Warfare Service, spending the greater part of 3 years in the Republic of Panama.

He received a B.S. Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas in 1948, after which he worked in the oil fields from 1948--1952 in Texas and Louisiana. Later from 1952--1957 he farmed and ranched in Texas.

The Dr. received his M.S. Degree in Psychology in 1960 from the University of Houston. His Ph. D. Degree was from the University of Houston. He was a psychology instructor for a number of years, and engaged in private practice in Houston for a period of 3 years.

His present wife is a student in behavioral science at the University of Montana in Missoula. He has a family of four by a previous marriage.

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In the past months the Social Service Department has added some new faces. Dwight Pierce, B.A. in Psychology, from Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas, joined the staff July 14, and is assigned to the hospital section.

David Eccleston, B.A. in Liberal Arts from University of Montana, Missoula, started on September 2, and works on the Eastern Unit team.

Jacqueline (Jackie) Schelly, B.S. in Sociology (Social Work option). Montana State University, Bozeman, began work September 29, and is assigned to the Western Unit. She had worked on WICHE at Maple Lane School in Washington and had field work in the Probation Office in Bozeman.

Michael Murphy, B.A. in Sociology, Carroll College, Helena, was hired on October 21, and is assigned to the Western Unit. On Project Transition he had worked intensively over three months in Welfare in Alabama prior to discharge from the service.

Dorothy Harkrader, B.A. from Ohio State, Columbus, Ohio, joined the Department on October 20, and is assigned to the Main Women's Department. She had about three years previous experience in Welfare in Kansas and Iowa.

THE HISTORY OF

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS TO THE PRESENT TIME. BY JAMES M. SMITH, ESQ. VOL. I. NEW-YORK: PUBLISHED BY J. B. ALLEN, 1840.

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